

Dear Legislators:

First of all CUDOS to Rep Robert Sanchez, our Knight in shining armor and Senator Gayle Slossberg and Rep. Andrew Fleischmann for recognizing and speaking out on the inequality of ECS funding. WAKE UP!!!! I am being direct because apparently no one in the legislature listens!

WHY would you fund the Magnet and Charter schools that are doing well and IGNORE the needy schools in the Commissioner's Network?

For the life of me, as a Lifelong Connecticut Resident, I don't understand elected officials.

I am a Paraeducator in the New Britain Schools District at Slade Middle School. I see, everyday, students who could succeed and become active, contributing members of society in the State of Connecticut who are becoming lost in our inadequately funded district. The lack of teachers and paraeducators who encourage and guide the students who come from the lowest of poverty homes will impact the future of this State. They are trying to break the vicious cycle of poverty and earning a high school diploma and possibly more to better themselves and the community. YOU, our elected officials, are denying this school district the means to provide an equal education to all of Connecticut's students.

Providing more money to Charter and Magnet Schools that a lottery has to be done for students to even attend these schools is ludicrous! These students will succeed anywhere because you're taking the brightest students out of the quagmire of low funded public education and giving them all the means to succeed. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE STUDENTS FACED WITH ETERNAL POVERTY???? PLEASE RECONSIDER!!

You need to come to the classrooms full of faces that want to be successful and don't get the proper adult supervision. IT will COST more to fund these individuals when they become criminals because they have fallen through the cracks!

I BEG YOU to reconsider the distribution of ECS monies in the budget for education. How do we explain EQUALITY to our students when our elected officials show them otherwise. When does educational equality become for the rich and not the poor?

I realize this testimony will be ignored and probably not even read. But I, as an educator will never stop trying to get students to become all that they are meant to be.

Sincerely and Hopefully with Gratitude,  
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